**Decline in T&D Losses in DPS Co. Ltd.**

*525. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE†:
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Dishergarh Power Supply Co. Ltd. (DPS) buys more than 75% of the power from DVC for distribution around an area of about 650 Sq. Km.;

(b) whether T&D loss in DPS area has shown abnormally sharp decline during the last three years;

(c) if so, its T&D loss during 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99;

(d) whether there has been allegation of underbilling of DVC through 'Meter' manipulation;

(e) if so, whether any investigation has been made in this behalf. and

(f) if not, whether the same will be done by CEA immediately?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) The Dishergarh Power Supply Company (DPSCo.) is a licensee supplying power to an area of 618 sq. Kms. in the Asansol-Raniganj area. M/s. DPS Co. has an installed capacity of 43 MW. The company also purchases power from Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) and WBSEB to the extent of 65 per cent and 6 to 8 per cent of its requirement respectively.

(b) and (c) The T&D loss reported by M/s. DPS Co. during 1996—99 is as under :—

| Year | T&D losses reported by DPS Co. |
|---|---|
| 1996-97 | 4.36% |
| 1997-98 | 3.69% |
| 1998-99 | 1.40% |

There was a significant reduction in the T&D loss reported by M/S. DPS Co. during the year 1998-99. DVC is undertaking a verification in order to

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Dipankar Mikherjee.

determine whether there has been any underbilling during 1998-99 on account of mal-functioning of the current transformer at Luchipur and Sheebpur.

Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) supplies power to M/s. DPS Co. through feeders at four locations (Dishergarh, Sheebpur, Luchipur and Satgram) at 33 KV. During October, 1999, the Current Transformer (CT) at Luchipur was found to be defective and was replaced on 3-11-1999. The Current Transformer at Sheebpur was also found to be defective on 3-11-1999 and was replaced on 9-11-1999.

(d) No, Sir, However, a complaint letter dated 5-2-2000 was received by CMD, Eastern Coalfields Limited from Shri Bikash Chowdhury, Member of Parliament (LS) regarding abnormally low T&D loss reported by M/s. DPS Co. and consequent over billing to M/s. Eastern Coalfields Limited. Eastern Coalfields Limited got as many as 27 meters tested with the help of pre-calibrated standard test meter and digital test meter and found that percentage variation of the recorded consumption in the energy meters were within the permissible limit as prescribed under Rules 57 of India Electricity Rules, 1956.

(e) and (f) The Wast Bengal State Electricity Board will be directed to ascertain the facts regarding the accuracy of T & D loss figures reported by M/s. DPS Co. and whether any over billing to the consumers had been made as a result thereof. The CEA will be directed to examine the causes of mal-functioning of Current Transformers and recommend steps required to be taken to ensure proper metering at the locations where bulk power is supplied by DVC to M/s. DPS Co.

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE : Sir, this is a typical question, just opposite to what we have been discussing. We have been discussing the high T and D losses, 20 per cent, 30 per cent and 40 per cent. Now, the question before the house is, where the T and D loss has gone positive and there is no T and D loss. The T and D loss which has been shown by a particular company is 1.39 per cent in a particular year 1998-99, and the average T and D loss, in an 11 KV line like this, is standardised at 5 to 7 per cent. It has come down to 1.3 per cent. Four per cent is the loss and 1.5 per cent is the transmission loss. The total comes to 5.5 per cent. Now, this has come down to 1.3 per cent, and the per cent loss comes to 2 crore rupees, and this company has shown in its balance sheet for 1998-99, of Rs. 6 crores. But the T and D loss which has been shown to have been reduced, is unscrupulous, it is a manipulation, it is not possible. I

am happy that the Minister had asked for an inquiry through a different agency. The losses have come down to 1.3 per cent. Is it possible? Someone is manipulating both at the supply end and the consumer end. At the supply end is the DVC and at the consumer end is that area of industry in West Bengal. This is nothing. I have gone through 12 months' reports. The Minister has given a nice reply. It is not an yearly loss. I have seen the monthly report, and in one particular month, I have seen that the T and D gained, that is, whatever you have generated, you have distributed more than the generation. This is a classic case. I have got the monthly report. They have manipulated. We are talking about the poor. If it is a poor man, we discuss how to cut down, how to penalise. But here is a company which has manipulated, not for one year, but for the last three years to the tune of rupees 20 crores. Let this case be a model case as to how to penalise the companies and not the poor fellows, whether it is power or fertilizer. I would like to get an assurance from the Minister that after this inquiry, if necessary, let him refer it to the CBI.

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM : Sir, it is true that this is one of those cases where the T and D losses are reported are positive, which is impossible. In other words, loss is a gain, which shown that you must have some special capacity. The truth of the matter is that obviously, two, three transformers of the DVC which supplies power to this particular company, have failed. The case is being investigated by the CEA. I have directed them to do so. With regard to the accuracy of the T and D losses, I have asked the West Bengal State Electricity Board to do the investigation. The CEA and the West Bengal State Electricity Board will investigate this matter and give us the report. I shall bring to the notice of all the hon. Members to check out as to what it is. The West Bengal State Electricity Board's investigation is only with regard to the accuracy of the T and D loss figures. In other words, the CEA will definitely investigate whether the losses could be so low. The CEA will investigate on the current meters. There is a contract between the DVC and the company that whenever the transformers do not work, the billing would be done in particular manner looking at the earlier consumption as well as the consumer billing. That will be done and the accounts will be set right. But, in the meanwhile, I shall have to obtain the whole report. After that, I shall discuss it with the Members concerned. We shall discuss the matter and then we can take the next steps.

MR CHAIRMAN : Question Hour is over.